

**21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS GRANTS  
PROJECT ABSTRACT  
FY 2007-2008**

Agency: Agate Head Start

**1. Statement of Need:**

All five schools involved in this grant are Title I schoolwide projects. Their current percentages of free and reduced lunch average over 81 percent. Each school made AYP after they were placed into restructuring. Agate has a high poverty rate and an overall graduation rate of less than one half of its high school population. Consequently, there is a great need for a 21st Century Community Learning Centers After-School program. Community challenges include poverty, high unemployment, crime, drug use, and low academic achievement. Initiatives provided by this program will increase the quality of academic success, youth development, and family support for youth attending these schools.

**2. Description of Project:**

The program focuses on academic enrichment, positive youth development, and support for family literacy. A wide range of diverse activities will be provided to meet the needs of the program participants and their families. Our program will run for 3 hours/day and 5 days for 38 weeks during the school year. Additionally, 6 weeks of summer school programming will be provided 6 hrs/day. Ongoing staff development will improve instruction and program quality. Students and parents will play an active role in curriculum and activity development/choices. National and State standards for quality out-of-school programs will be followed.

**3. Project Outcomes/Evaluation Plan:**

Project outcomes include academic improvement in the areas of reading, math, homework completion, and making AYP as measured by MEAP testing. Student behavior and attendance will improve. There will be support provided to families of students enrolled in the 21st CCLC program in the area of literacy. Computer access and use will be offered to both students and their families. Communication will be established with students' day teachers to provide for a consistent transition into the after-school activities.

These outcomes will be measured for success by using MDE state reports. District wide test results will also be used to measure program success and assure that programming is in line with the district goals. The required on-site monitoring report performed by MDE consultants, YPQA, local evaluator, MSU reports and standardized testing will be analyzed and this data will be used for program improvement.

**4. Qualification of Key Personnel:**

All staff will meet requirements for licensing approval. The Program Director has 19 years of teaching and administrative experience. He has successfully directed after-school programs in several other districts. The site coordinators will have BA's in child related fields and experience working with children. All program staff will receive training which aligns to program improvement goals.